

USDA / Rural Development

101 SW Main, Suite 1410, Portland, OR 97204 • Phone: (503) 414-3300 Fax: (503) 414-3385

News Release

Contact:

Eric Herst
USDA Rural Development
(503) 414-3302

LaPine Water District Receives USDA funds for water system expansion

The LaPine Water District will receive a \$325,000 loan and \$325,000 grant from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Rural Utilities Service (RUS) to expand its water system to include Wickiup Junction. The loan is scheduled to be repaid over 30 years at an interest rate of 4.5 percent.

The development at Wickiup Junction is located just over two miles north of the LaPine community. Wickiup Junction relies on one non-community water system and numerous private wells. Most of the wells are shallow and draw from the near surface water table. The groundwater source is highly susceptible to contamination from poorly designed and maintained septic tanks and drain fields.

Phase II expansion of the existing LaPine water system to Wickiup Junction includes 12,300 feet of 12-inch transmission line and approximately 13,700 feet of 6-inch, 8-inch and 10-inch distribution system within Wickiup Junction. Improvements will also include service laterals and installation of meters and 17 fire hydrants.

Phase II of the LaPine Water District improvements will provide 276 residential users and 138 non-residential users with an adequate and reliable supply of potable water and increased fire protection. The public domestic water system will address health concerns as well as to accommodate future growth.

In Fiscal Year 2001, LaPine Water District received a \$500,000 Emergency Community Water Assistance Grant (ECWAG) and \$2,826,500 in loan and \$973,500 in grant funds for water system improvements.